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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

AUSTRIA, HUNGARY NEGOTIATE ON WATERWAY TRAFFIC;
SATELLITE TRANSPORTATION PERFORMANCE IMPROVES

BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS TO RESUME WATERWAY TRAFFIC -- Zurich, Neue Zuercher Zeitung, 19 Feb 53

Negotiations for the opening of waterway traffic between Austria and Hungary have begun in Vienna. This is the first attempt to loosen the stranglehold of Danube traffic by the states behind the Iron Curtain. The Austrians separate the question of direct freight traffic with Hungary from the possibility of transit traffic through Hungary to Yugoslavia. It is believed, however, that in case of resumption of ship traffic between Vienna and Budapest it may be possible to dispatch freighters up to Belgrade and that there might even be possibilities for freight transit traffic from Bulgaria via Yugoslavia to Hungary and Austria.

The fact that a Hungarian delegation has appeared in Vienna permits the assumption that Hungary, with the tacit approval of the USSR, may be ready under certain conditions to resume ship traffic on the Danube.

The question is considered acute since the Soviet High Commissioner in 1952 approved ship traffic between the Soviet and American zones of Austria. This traffic is operating smoothly at present even though it has not assumed any large proportions. Thus, freight traffic on the Danube between Linz and Regensburg in January 1953 amounted to 95,100 tons; between Vienna and Linz, however, only 36,300 tons.

BULGARIAN MERCHANT FLEET INCREASED SIXFOLD -- Berlin, GDR, Aussenhandels-Nachrichten, 3 Sep 52

The Bulgarian merchant fleet has increased sixfold since 1945. In 1951, freight transported by sea and on inland waterways was 20 times larger than in 1944. The freight-transshipping plan makes provision for a considerable increase in water transport. The crews of merchant vessels increased their performance in freight transshipping up to 80 percent, as compared with the previous year.

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HUNGARIAN RAILROADS, WATERWAYS TOP PLANS -- Berlin, GDR, Aussenhandels-Nachrichten, 27 Aug 52

The Hungarian railroads fulfilled their freight transportation quota 101.7 percent in the second quarter 1952. As compared with the second quarter 1951, freight traffic increased 25.3 percent and passenger traffic 23.2 percent. For the more important articles the average daily loading was higher than in the second quarter 1951, e.g., an increase of 18.1 percent for coal, 35.0 percent for oil, 5.6 percent for lime and cement, 32.9 percent for stone and gravel, 29.0 percent for potatoes, and 32.7 percent for bread grain.

Waterway traffic fulfilled its freight transportation quota 108.9 percent; waterway freight traffic increased to 120 percent of that of the comparable period of the previous year. Freight transportation by trucks exceeded the performance of the second quarter 1951 by 48.4 percent.

Urban streetcars transported 5.8 percent more persons. Passenger traffic on urban busses has increased 29.9 percent in one year, while traffic on intercity busses increased 32.9 percent.

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